

AMENDMENTSIn the Claims

Claims 1-27 were pending at the time of the Office Action.

5 Claims 1, 3, 6-10, 14-18, 20-24, 26 and 27 are rejected.

Claims 11-13 and 25 are expressly allowed.

Claims 2, 4, 5 and 19 are objected to.

Please cancel claims 1, 3, 6-10, 16-18, 20-24 and 26-27 without prejudice.

10 Please amend claims 2, 4, 5 and 19 as indicated below.

Accordingly, claims 2, 4, 5, 11-15, 19 and 25 remain pending and are provided herein below in a complete listing of claims:

Listing of Claims:

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1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) A media holddown device comprising:  
a platen;

20 a plurality of vacuum chambers for applying a negative pressure to a media positioned on the platen;

a vacuum source in permanent air communication with holes in the platen through the vacuum chambers;

a hollow vacuum conduit connected to the vacuum chambers;

25 wherein the vacuum source is connected to the hollow vacuum conduit, the vacuum chambers are part of a first component, the hollow vacuum conduit is part of a second, separate component, and A device according to claim 27,

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